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Docket No.: 1081.1055

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoshio KITAMURA

Serial No. 08/932,427

Group Art Unit: 2187

Confirmation No. 5306

Filed: September 17, 1997

Examiner: Portka, G.

For: RAID APPARATUS AND ACCESS CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed March 8, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on June 10, 2002 (June 8, 2002 being a Saturday). Therefore, this Amendment is timely filed by June 10, 2002. However, if any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed concurrently herewith.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE claims 1, 7, and 13-16 in accordance with the following:

1. (AS SEVEN TIMES AMENDED) A RAID apparatus comprising:

a plurality of physical disk units storing a plurality of copies of each of logical volumes;

a disk controller accessing any of the physical disk units which stores a designated

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and